



Council for Northeast Historical Archæology NEWSLETTER

June 2008

NUMBER 70

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CNEHA Has a Permanent Address for Its Website:
<http://www.smcm.edu/cneha>

COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

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Northeast Historical Archaeology seeks manuscripts dealing with historical archaeology in the Northeast region, including field reports, artifact studies, and analytical presentations (e.g., physical anthropology, palynology, faunal analysis, etc.). We also welcome commentary and opinion pieces. To submit a manuscript or request preparation of manuscript guidelines, write to Elizabeth S. Peña, Northeast Historical Archaeology, c/o Anthropology Department, Classroom Bldg B107, Buffalo State College, Buffalo, NY 14222. neha@buffalostate.edu

Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Annual Meeting



Archaeology of the Atlantic World

October 24-26, 2008
St. Mary's City, Maryland

Plans for the 2008 Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Conference are being finalized and a first Call for Papers has been sent to members. A pre-conference registration fee of \$50 for CNEHA members and \$25 for CNEHA student members has been set. Students are encouraged to apply for the student paper competition. A plenary session focused on the subject of the Archaeology of the Atlantic World has been scheduled for Saturday morning featuring Henry Miller, Julia King, and Mary Beaudry as principal speakers. The opening reception Friday night will be held at the new St. John's Archaeological exhibit, a 5,500-square-foot museum of history and archaeology built around the remains of a 1638 house. Tours of Historic St. Mary's City and a range of workshops will be featured at St. Mary's City and at the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory in St. Leonard on Friday. Once again the Saturday evening banquet will be a Southern Maryland church dinner featuring stuffed ham and crab cakes. The conference hotel will be the Hampton Inn, approximately ten

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miles from St. Mary's City. A conference room rate of \$104 plus tax has been negotiated. All conference sessions will be held on the campus of St. Mary's College of Maryland. Join us in lovely Southern Maryland for what promises to be an informative and enjoyable experience.

Kate Dinnel and Silas Hurry,
Conference Co-Chairpersons

UPDATE--*Northeast Historical Archaeology*

Reported by: Elizabeth S. Peña, Editor

The move of the editorial office to Buffalo State College is now complete – check out our web site at buffalostate.edu/neha. Now we need some manuscripts to publish! We need your help to maintain the journal's publication schedule. We do realize that it's the field season now – but we urge you to write up your latest project, perhaps as a “field note” rather than a full article; encourage your colleagues and students to submit article manuscripts; and, keep NEHA in mind for future projects. If you have any questions, just contact us at the editorial office, neha@buffalostate.edu.

Elizabeth Peña, Editor
Sue Maguire, Associate Editor
Kacey Page, Editorial Assistant

Newsletter Editor's Report

Reported by: David Starbuck, Newsletter Editor

Please send news for the next issue of the CNEHA Newsletter by September 15 to the appropriate provincial or state editor.

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**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR NORTHEAST
HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

Sunday, October 28, 2007
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Buffalo, New York

Meeting was called to order by Karen Metheny at 7:44 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2006 Annual Business Meeting, Oct. 22, 2006, Tarrytown, New York.

Moved by: Ed Morin

Seconded by: Jim Shropshire

Carried

OLD BUSINESS

1. Treasurer's Report

Sara Mascia reported that income received to date in the U.S. account is \$11,342; expenses to date total \$9,766. The CD matures on December 14, 2007.

Joe Last reported that the current Canadian account balance was \$2,301. The major expense for the year was \$4,706 for the printing of the journal which is done in Québec. Sara will be sending \$2,000 from the U.S. to the Canadian account. She also

announced the equalization of U.S. and Canadian membership rates. These rates will be revisited every few years.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report

Moved by: Elizabeth Peña

Seconded by: Ellen Blaubergs

Carried

2. Membership Reports

Ed Morin reported that membership increased by 13 this year. Student membership is equal to last year; other categories are also up. Student membership is still a bargain at \$20.

Joe Last reported that Canadian membership also increased this year to 81; hopefully, this number will continue to climb when the annual conference is held in Québec in 2009.

Meta Janowitz reported that there were no changes to the number of institutional subscribers this year. She urged everyone to entice private firms and libraries to join, including European firms and institutions. Karen Metheny reported that the board will be looking at the results of a paypal account set up for the Buffalo conference; this might make us more attractive to institutions.

Motion to accept Membership Reports

Moved by: Ann-Eliza Lewis

Seconded by: Silas Hurry

Carried

PUBLICATION REPORTS

3. Newsletter Report: David Starbuck

Karen Metheny announced that David had produced 55 newsletters since becoming editor. There were 12 editors in total before he came on. The October Newsletter will be out in a few weeks; it is a bit longer these days: 53 pages of raw copy. The cost per issue has risen. Only one change to report: the March issue will be out a bit earlier; editors should get their copy in a little bit earlier. David asked for and received a round of applause for all state and province editors.

4. Journal Report: David Landon

Page proofs of the next journal are ready and will fulfill one of David's key goals to finish two issues in one year; Vol. 36 (thematic issue on Sylvester Manor) will be mailed before the end of this year. There is still space for content in the 2008 volume.

David has also been trying to simplify access to the journal for members: five years of electronic versions are up at the CLIO journal site; a single password for CNEHA members should help simplify access to that site. David acknowledged the hard work of assistant editors Ashley Peles and Virginia Sheehan (French abstracts); back issue and poster back issue sales are good.

Karen Metheny announced that David will be stepping down as journal editor; she thanked him and his many assistants over the years, for their commitment to producing consistent first rate issues. A search committee to find a replacement for David consisted of Ann-Eliza Lewis, Sara Mascia and David Landon. They received an excellent proposal from Elizabeth Peña. She will receive support from Buffalo State College; an associate journal editor will be also funded by Buffalo State.

David noted that the past 6 _ years went by very quickly as there was always a lot of work. Karen thanked Buffalo State for coming through with so much support; she also expressed appreciation to the deans who supported this proposal.

5. CNEHA Website: Silas Hurry

Silas expressed his appreciation to David for providing pdfs from back issue Newsletters; there is good material on the site; a committee will continue to seek additional content.

6. POSTERS: Silas Hurry

"Telling Time in the 17th Century" - Kate Dinnel, Meta Janowitz, Silas Hurry and Bly Straub are all contributing to this poster's development. They hope to have it completed and ready for distribution at the St. Mary's City meeting in 2008.

7. PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

a) 2007 Buffalo, NY: Liz Peña

Statistics: 42 papers, 110 registrants (includes 22 students); 45 people went on tours/workshop; 72 attended the banquet; anticipated profit: \$4,584. Liz also noted that she is looking forward to taking on the journal. KC. Page will be the student assistant.

b) 2008 St. Mary's City, MD (Silas Hurry and Kate Dinnel)

This will be the third time CNEHA has held its annual meeting here. The dates are October 24-26, 2008. The hotel is the Hampton Inn in Lexington Park. The conference theme is the Archaeology of the Atlantic World; Tim Reardon and Dan Ingersoll will act as arrangements co-chairs; Anne Grulich and Ruth Mitchell will be program co-chairs; Bob Sonderman and Marian Creveling will organize registration. Michael Lucas and Don Creveling will direct the book room. The new St. John's Archaeological Museum (built over an archaeological site!) will be open and serve as our Friday night reception venue. Come one, come all! Silas left us with one word....crab cakes...

c) 2009 Québec City: Allison Bain, Reginald Auger, William Moss

More specific information will be available at the next CNEHA annual business meeting.

d) 2010 Pennsylvania: James Delle, our newest Board member, has offered to act as host.

8. AWARDS: Sara Mascia

2007 Award of Service recipient is Karlis Karklins. He was unable to attend the banquet last evening. Chuck Bradley will deliver it to him in Ottawa. 25-year membership pins were also awarded last evening. The awards committee is working on the 2008 Award of Service.

9. STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION: Kristen Smith

The winner of the 2007 Student paper competition is Laura Quirk. Her paper is entitled: "The Bridgeport Site: Small-Scale Manufacturing in Ontario." The award was presented by Kevin Railey, Dean of Buffalo State College Graduate School. Sarah Henderson received an honorable mention for her paper: Kristen thanked the judges Jim Delle and Steve Oberon.

10. ARCHIVES

Rich Veit is acting as CNEHA Archivist. We are still seeking photos, programs, and other items. At present, various board members are inventorying all of the documents we have. Eventually we will decide what to retain and then produce an accessible electronic version.

11. OLD BUSINESS – No Old Business

12. 2007 ELECTION RESULTS: Meta Janowitz

Four incumbents were reelected: Ellen Blaubergs, Ed Morin, Liz Peña, and Rich Veit; James Delle was also elected. New officers were appointed at Friday's board meeting: Ed Morin will act as the U.S. Executive Vice Chair; Ellen Blaubergs will act as Secretary.

Rich Veit and Ellen Blaubergs will be the 2008 Nominations Committee.

Gerry Scharfenberger was thanked for his work on previous nominations committees.

Paul Huey is stepping down from the board. He worked very hard for us and will continue to work with the archival committee.

Motion to approve results of election

Moved by: Sara Mascia

Seconded by: Paul Huey

Carried

13. OTHER BUSINESS

Nancy Dickinson drew our attention to a new television program – "Cash and Treasures" where the hostess recently announced how best to get past security to get to your treasure. Nancy urged everyone to visit their web site and send letters of protest as this program is literally showing people how to break the law!

A proposal to introduce a new membership category "spouse at student level" came from the floor. The board will take this into consideration at a future meeting.

14. RESOLUTION OF THANKS TO OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER AND APPOINTED BOARD MEMBER

Paul Huey and David Landon

Moved by: Jim Delle

Seconded by: Silas Hurry

Carried

15. RESOLUTION OF THANKS FOR THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

Whereas, the 2007 CNEHA conference has been a resounding success;

Whereas, Buffalo, NY, has proven to be a most wonderful venue for such a conference;

Whereas, we have all enjoyed stimulating and informative workshops and visits to historic sites;

Whereas, we have taken pleasure in learning about the area's buildings and monuments, histories and enterprises;

Whereas, Rockwell Hall at Buffalo State College and the Art Conservation Department provided such a welcoming and interesting venue for toasts, talks, and tours;

Whereas, the Pearl Street Grill and Brewery provided such

an enjoyable and appropriate location for a banquet; Whereas, the entire conference has been conducive to the dissemination of knowledge and a stimulating exchange of ideas;

Now therefore, let it be resolved that the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology wishes to express its appreciation and gratitude for all of the hard work, long hours, and excellent effort of the conference organizers:

To the volunteers, Evelyn Cabantae, Laura Crandall, Amy Cuonze, Colleen Cwiklinski, Bill Engelbrecht, Laura Freeburg, Myisha Fuller, Peter Greenhalga, Sarah Harns, Lisa Hernandez, Shannon Klas, Kacey Page, Daniel Palumbo, Darcie Podniesinski, Alicia Rich, Adrienne Watz, David Wicks, Kelly Wilkinson, and Phillip Weiss,

To the workshop presenters, Doug Makey and Doug Pirelli,
To tour guides Susan Maguire, Elizabeth Pena, Kathy Leacock, and Meredith Lavelle, and Jerry Brubaker,

To the following sponsors for their very generous financial and other contributions: Buffalo State College, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Panamerican Consultants, URS, University of Buffalo Archaeological Survey, Richard Grubb and Associates, Historical Perspectives, Dr. Joan Geismar, John McKendry, Hunter Research, Archaeological Services Inc., Dr. Richard Veit, Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants, Binghamton University Public Archaeology Facility, and the Fiske Center for Archaeological Research,
To Nancy Brighton and Kirsten Smythe for organizing the student paper competition,

To Don Smith for organizing the book room,

To Lisa Anselmi as the media specialist and volunteer coordinator,

To Kathy Leacock as the registration chair and organizer of the raffle, and to all who donated prizes,

To Meredith Lavelle as the conference vice chair and designer,

And of course, a round of applause for the chief organizers of this wonderfully informative and most enjoyable conference—Elizabeth Pena and Susan Maguire!!

Moved by: David Landon

Seconded by: Wade Catts

Carried

MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

Moved by: Meta Janowitz

Seconded by: David Landon

Carried

Meeting adjourned at 8: 25 am

Respectfully submitted by:
Ellen Blaubergs

LATE BREAKING NEWS: ED LENIK FETED IN TRENTON

Reported by: Richard Veit

Ed Lenik, founding member of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology, received CNEHA's Award for Excellence in Service at the 2005 conference in Trenton. Ed is one of New Jersey's best known archaeologists. His research interests are diverse and range from early American ironworks, to military sites, rock art, and North American prehistory. He is also a noted author, having written several books, including: *Weekends in the Soil* (1977); *The Archaeology of Wayne* (1985); *Iron Mine Trails, a History and Hikers Guide to the Historic Iron Mines of the New Jersey and New York Highlands* (1996); *Max Schrabisch: Rockshelter Archaeologist* (1998); *Indians in the Ramapos* (1999); *Picture Rocks: American Indian Rock Art in the Northeast Woodlands* (2002); and most recently, *Lost Arrowheads and Broken Pottery: American Indians in Bear Mountain State Park* (2007). He has presented numerous papers on archaeological topics at professional and archaeological conferences throughout the Northeast.

Ed's involvement with CNEHA predates the organization's birth. In the late 1960s he began working with Jack Mead, Director of the Trailside Museum at Bear Mountain, New York. Mead was digging the Massachusetts Brigade Site at the New Windsor Cantonment. In 1966, Mead and Colonel Frederick P. Todd organized a symposium on historic sites archaeology that was held at the Hotel Thayer in West Point, New York. From this early meeting the Council developed. Initially, the Council met twice a year at Bear Mountain or New Windsor Cantonment in the spring and at varying locations in the fall. Ed was the first Vice Chair and served from 1967 until 1977 as Program Chair. In these capacities he worked with other early members included Gordon DeAngelo, Wallace Workmaster, Gilbert Hagerty, Paul Huey, Peggy Field, Jake Grimm, and Budd Wilson. Thanks to Ed Lenik's strong leadership and the foundation he and his colleagues laid, the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology continues to thrive today. His fine work has garnered numerous awards. In 1977 he was named a Fellow of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey and in 1988 he became a Fellow of the New York State Archaeological Association. He also received the Meritorious Service Award of the NYSAA in 1996. In 2005 Ed received the Conservation Award of the Eastern States Rock Art Research Association. Because of his lengthy commitment to our organization and the archaeological community, we were proud to honor Ed with CNEHA's highest award, the Award for Excellence in Service, at our 2005 annual meeting in Trenton. A special thanks to Ed for his long-term support of CNEHA. We look forward to his continued participation in the organization.

NEW EXHIBITION

Pointe-à-Callière presents:
FRANCE, NEW FRANCE
BIRTH OF A FRENCH PEOPLE IN
NORTH AMERICA

An exhibition that offers a new look at the great adventure of French settlement on the continent.

From May 21 to October 12, 2008

Montreal, May 20 2008 — The exhibition *France, New France. Birth of a French people in North America* harks back to the historic days of the founding of the first French settlements in North America, and explores the nature of French colonization of the continent.

The exhibition is co-produced by Pointe-à-Callière, the Montréal Museum of Archaeology and History, and the Musée d'histoire de Nantes/Château des ducs de Bretagne, two museums located on opposite sides of the Atlantic that developed a fruitful partnership in order to explore this fascinating adventure.

Through stirring objects and using original means of presentation, the exhibition traces the eventful stages over the course of which a francophone presence took root in North America, even before Jacques Cartier's arrival in 1534: unsuccessful first attempts, the first settlements — Île Sainte-Croix and Port-Royal in 1604 and 1605, Québec in 1608, Montréal in 1642 —, the expansion of New France, heartbreaks and new challenges...

But the exhibition is distinguished by the fact that it offers a new look at the nature of settlement in New France, lifting the veil, so to speak, on the singular and unique character of colonization on American soil. Some 150 objects — ancient ethnographic documents, and others, from founding sites — will be interspersed throughout this original exhibition.

A unique feature of colonization: the remarkable contribution of women

The different perspective that France, New France offers on the singular character of the settlement of the continent rests on an unusual fact: in the history of European immigration and colonization in North America, never was initial family-based immigration from France so scant.

Over a period of 100 years or so, beginning in 1608, the majority of the some 3,200 pioneer unions that formed the basis of the population — over 90% — were young couples who came together on Laurentian soil and were not married to each other prior to coming to America. This led to a rapid "Canadianization" of the population, and at the beginning of the 1700s, it was already possible to talk of the existence of a Canadian society. For more information on the pioneer unions, please read the press release on the Riverbeds enclosed (Comm_lits_en.pdf).

The systematic forming of couples — couples that would

prove to be very fertile, in large part because of their young age — rested on three remarkable contributions by women:

_ The great number of marriageable women sent to New France, the "Filles du roi," especially between 1663 and 1673, in an effort to ensure that single males — soldiers and volunteers who had initially come to work in America but not to settle here permanently — would remain in the colony.

_ Marriages at a very young age between the first "Filles du pays" — between 1680 and 1700 — and single males who continued to come to New France on a temporary basis and were still present in exceeding numbers.

_ The contribution of Amerindian women from the upper country — Amerindian New France — who married "Canadiens" of the St. Lawrence Valley who were involved in the fur trade.

A colony with an uncertain future

The exhibition will also reveal the motives of French monarchs, from François I to Louis XIV, for wanting to colonize the New World and lay claim to its territories. We will examine what led French subjects to leave their homeland and choose a colony with an uncertain future: the hope for a better life, the fulfilment of short-term work contracts or military service, the more or less voluntary relocation of orphans... or the simple need for adventure.

The founding of Trois-Rivières (1634) and Montréal (1642), as well as certain nerve centres in France and New France — such as Nantes, La Rochelle, Acadia, the Saint Lawrence Valley, the Great Lakes region and, finally, Louisiana — will also be examined.

The exhibition pays particular attention to the Amerindians. The survival of the colonists, political expansion and economic growth, and knowledge of the territory of New France depended largely on the essential but little-known contribution of the First Nations. It was thanks to its Native allies that New France, with a population of only one-twentieth that of New England, was able to maintain its strong position.

Five key periods

Through a human and intimate approach to history, rather than a factual one, the exhibition covers five major periods of French settlement in New France, beginning in the 1500s, with the arrival of fishermen and explorers in the "new found land" of the North-East, to the warm shores of Louisiana.

1500 – 1600: Beginnings

The 16th century saw Jacques Cartier's first voyages of exploration in 1534 and 1535, and the flood of European fishermen drawn by the rich waters off this "new found land" and the St. Lawrence Estuary. Millions of Amerindians had already been living in North America for a long time, and

their first contacts with Europeans are a major part of this section of the exhibition.

1600 – 1650: Roots

The 17th century was the most decisive period for French settlement in North America. Newcomers now established what they hoped would be permanent foundations, veritable launching pads for further colonization: Île Sainte-Croix and Port-Royal (Acadia) in 1604-1605, Québec in 1608, Trois-Rivières in 1634, and Montréal in 1642.

1650 - 1700: Establishment

This is the most important part of the exhibition, the part in which we gain an understanding of just what made this settlement so unique. In particular, we will examine the role of the “Canadiennes” as pioneers, an aspect that is often disregarded in the history of New France. In 1663, France adopted a true colonial policy and began taking steps to populate the lands explored by French adventurers, over which it now intended to assert its authority. Louis XIV also sent over hundreds of marriageable young women, the “Filles du roi.” These measures, and the new couples’ remarkable birth rate, soon meant that the French population was here to stay.

1700 – 1750: Expansion

By this time, people born in New France made up the majority of its population. Immigration was no longer the main source of settlers but did remain important because of the type of immigrants who made their way to the colony. There was also internal migration, as members of the second generation struck out to colonize other parts of New France, including Louisiana.

1750 – 1800: New beginnings

The Seven Years’ War, during which France and England fought each other through their colonies, led to vast waves of migration between New France and Europe. The deportation of the Acadians (1755) was one of the largest population upheavals during this unsettled period. Men, women and children were uprooted by force and sent to the British colonies or Europe; some eventually returned to Acadia, while others settled in Louisiana, where they were known as Cajuns.

While the British Conquest put an end to New France, North America’s French colony, it did not erase the French presence that had become solidly anchored on American soil. Today, some 15 million Acadians, Quebeckers, francophones in the rest of Canada and in the United States all continue to keep French alive on this side of the Atlantic.

Thematic programming

In conjunction with this exhibition, over the course of 2008, Pointe-à-Callière is presenting a major programme of activities on the theme of France, New France. This programming includes exhibitions, lectures, cultural activities, interpretive

tours, guided tour routes, and virtual encounters.

Essential reading

An ideal complement to the exhibition is the accessible and magnificently illustrated book that presents the adventure of the French settlement of America. Learn about the crucial role of Franco-Amerindian alliances in the development of New France, and about the increasing contribution of archaeology in understanding the cultural intermixing of communities. The eponymous book is co-produced by Pointe-à-Callière and the Musée d’histoire de Nantes/Château des ducs de Bretagne.

The exhibition was presented in Halifax in 2004 and in Moncton in 2005. In France, the exhibition opened at the Musée d’histoire de Nantes/Château des ducs de Bretagne in 2007. It then moved on to the Maison Champlain in Brouage and the Château-musée de Dieppe. At the beginning of 2008, it finally made a stop at the Maison de l’émigration française au Canada in Tourouve before returning to Pointe-à-Callière where a revised and enhanced version will be presented, beginning on May 21.

The France, New France. Birth of a French people in North America exhibition is co-produced by Pointe-à-Callière, the Montréal Museum of Archaeology and History, and the Musée d’histoire de Nantes/Château des ducs de Bretagne.

The exhibition benefits from the support of the Department of Canadian Heritage, under the following programs: the Museums Assistance Program, the Atlantic Canada Cultural and Economic Partnership Program of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, and the Canada-France Agreement on Museum Cooperation and Exchanges. The Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade also provided support through its Canada-France 2004 Program.

Pointe-à-Callière thanks its valuable partners: the Ministère de la culture et de la communication de France, the Direction des musées de France, the Mairie de Nantes, Air Canada, Tourisme Montréal, Le Centre Sheraton Montreal Hotel, Historia, La Presse, and The Gazette. The exhibition is accredited by the Société du 400e anniversaire de Québec.

The Museum is subsidized by the City of Montréal.

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CURRENT RESEARCH

New Hampshire

Reported by: Dennis E. Howe

JMA and UMASS Archaeological Services (UMAS) conducted Phase II and III archaeological investigations for the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for the International Paper Box Machine Company Site (27-HB-369), along the north and south sides of Salmon Brook in the City of Nashua. The project area is the location of the proposed Rotary Common Park and includes industrial mill sites spanning from 1803 to 1973. Former structures include early nineteenth century saw and grist mills and a blacksmith shop and trip hammer, a linen (later satinette ca. 1833) mill and dye house, and a machine shop where secondary historic sources say Elias Howe, Jr. refined his concept and submitted a ca. 1846 patent for the sewing machine and where Ammi George built the first railroad spike machine. Structures associated with the ca. 1854-1868 Harbor Manufacturing Company and the ca. 1868-1903 Vale (cotton) Mill were located on both sides of Salmon Brook and activities included textile manufacture and weaving. Following the 1883 loss of the wood dam at Salmon Brook, in 1884 a granite block dam, still extant, was constructed. In 1903 French Canadian immigrant Elie Labombarde purchased the property and established the International Paper Box Machine Company. His highly successful international operation (1903-1973) led to the expansion and rebuilding of his plant in 1923, which spanned Salmon Brook and included wings on both the north and south sides of Salmon Brook. Documentary research by Sheila Charles and Phase I, II and III archaeological investigations by JMA, UMAS and URS have confirmed the locations of several nineteenth century structures, in addition to documenting the remains of half a dozen structures either built or still in use in the twentieth century prior to their demolition in 1973. The site offers a rare opportunity to interpret Nashua's early settlement and industrial heritage. In addition, its accessibility and central location near several schools contributes to the significant educational and interpretive value inherent in the archaeological resources.

Massachusetts

Reported by: Linda M. Ziegenbein

2008 UMass Amherst Field School

[Submitted by Siobhan M. Hart]

The 2008 UMass Amherst Archaeological Field School will continue investigating the Area D site (19-FR-415), a seventeenth century Native American site located in Deerfield, Massachusetts. The field school is part of an on-going community-based archaeology project known as the Pocumtuck Fort Archaeology and Stewardship Project, co-directed by Elizabeth Chilton and Siobhan Hart (UMass Amherst). The

project engages community stakeholders, including avocational archaeologists, historians, representatives of descendant communities through the Massachusetts Commission on Indian Affairs (MCIA), landowners, and local institutions such as Historic Deerfield, Inc., to work towards two shared goals: (1) protecting and stewarding the Pocumtuck Fort site for the long-term; and (2) using what we learn from the archaeology and collaboration to combat the erasure of New England Native peoples, past and present.

Through field testing in 2006 and 2007, we have recovered more than 2300 artifacts and identified a series of cultural features, including seven possible postmolds, the base of a fire hearth, and about a dozen large, circular trash and/or storage pits. Artifacts recovered include fire-cracked rocks, Native American pottery sherds, fragments of shell wampum beads, glass trade beads, a bone awl, metal objects including a metal fish hook and a brass kettle lug, and a variety of cut brass and copper. Other artifacts from the site include a small number of lithic flakes, core fragments, a few ground stone tool fragments, and thousands of plant and animal remains, which include butternut, acorn, walnut, hickory, sunflower, maize, mussel, turtle, fish, bird, small mammal, and deer.

The 2008 field school will build on this previous fieldwork to address a series of research questions focused on: (1) determining site boundaries and artifact distribution; (2) determining whether there is evidence of fortification; (3) investigating the purpose of large circular features; and (4) investigating the cultural features disturbed by illegal digging. The field school will be directed by Siobhan M. Hart, assisted by UMass Amherst graduate students Heidi Bauer-Clapp, Katie Dambach, and Angela Labrador. The field school runs from July 15-August 16, and we will host an open field lab in the Moors House in Historic Deerfield from July 24-August 9, Thursday-Saturday, 9:30-12:00 and 1:00-3:30. For further information and updates from the field, see our website: <http://www.anthro.umass.edu/field08/>

Rhode Island

Reported by: Kristen Heitert and Ray Pasquariello

Early Nineteenth Century Rum Distillery Site in Bristol
Suzanne Cherau and Jennifer Banister of PAL Inc. have recently identified the archaeological remains of an early nineteenth century rum distillery on Thames Street in Bristol, RI. The distillery was one of five that operated in Bristol during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Together with over 30 rum distilleries in Newport, the state of Rhode Island produced up to 90 percent of the rum consumed in the eastern United States and shipped to Africa as part of the Triangle Trade. The largest and most infamous rum distillery in Bristol was run by the renowned D'Wolf Family, many of whom became infamous privateers in the nineteenth century Triangle Trade. The remains of their distillery were found about five years ago during construction of

the hotel and shops along the Thames Street waterfront. Rick Greenwood, formerly of RIHPHC, did a quick salvage of the site, and noted the remains of about 18 large (6-ft) diameter wooden vats. Other rum distillery sites to have survived and been studied archaeologically consist of the Henley Distillery in Charlestown, MA (excavated by PAL as part of the Central Artery Project) and the Quackenbush Distillery in Albany, NY (excavated by Hartgen Associates). Of all the rum distilleries that once operated in the northeastern United States from Staten Island to Boston as part of the colonial Triangle Trade, the Bristol, RI, site is only the fourth one to date to have been identified in the archaeological record.

Deed research has confirmed both the function and age of the recently discovered rum distillery. We know that by the 1820s it was owned and operated by a partnership of Bristol merchants, Jarvis Pierce being the actual distiller. The same merchants also owned a wharf and store across Thames Street on the harbor, where the raw molasses and finished rum products from their distillery were likely sold and shipped to and from regional and foreign ports. The archaeological remains consist of 22 wooden vats (square, round, rectangular) where molasses was fermented in a mixture of water and yeast for several weeks at a time. The fermented molasses was then siphoned into a copper pot (still) where the mixture would be heated and vaporized and the liquor steam collected into round vats or barrels and either sold for local consumption or shipped back to Africa and traded for slaves. The archaeological investigations identified what is believed to be the remains of the circular (7-ft diameter) brick still base. A privy possibly associated with the distillery occupation was also discovered at the site. The distillery building footprint, although no longer visible at the site because of later occupations, appears to have measured about 80 ft long by about 30-ft wide. The site was determined significant and eligible to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Data recovery excavations were conducted and PAL is in the process of studying and synthesizing the recovered data, which will include specialized soil analyses of residues collected inside a number of the excavated vats.

New York

Reported by: Lois Feister

Belknap Farm Site

In October 2007, archaeologists from AMEC Earth and Environmental conducted a Phase II survey of the Belknap Farm Site (A07114.000156) located on the Stewart International Airport Air National Guard Station in Newburgh, Orange County, New York. The Phase II was conducted at the request of the National Guard Bureau, Air National Guard (NGB/A7CVN) with Matt Nowakowski serving as the Technical Point of Contact.

Research traces the Belknaps in Newburgh to England in the 1630s. Abraham Belknap (born 1589/90, died 1643) moved from England to Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1637. One

of his sons, Joseph, moved to Boston, Massachusetts, where he helped found the Old South Church in 1668. Joseph's son, Thomas (b. 1670, d. 1755), fathered the three brothers who eventually moved to Newburgh. Samuel, Thomas, and Benjamin Belknap moved from Woburn, Massachusetts, to the Newburg area around 1755. The Belknap family was very active in business and industry in Newburgh; research to date suggests their most active period began at least by the late 1700s and continued to the mid-1800s. The Belknaps founded some of the earliest and most successful mills in the area, and also participated in the banking, shipping and whaling industries.

The Belknap Farm Site was originally the home of Jonathan Belknap, son of Thomas Belknap. Jonathan built a stone house on property left to him when his father died in 1777. However, archaeological information indicates the farm was not likely established until the end of the eighteenth century. Of the 1,110 nails recovered at the site, only five were wrought, a number that would have been much higher had the site been built immediately upon Jonathan's inheritance. Jonathan died in 1817 and following his death Chancy Belknap, his son-in-law, gained ownership of the house and farm. Chancy married two of Jonathan's daughters, first Sarah and following her death, her sister Mercy. The girls were also his distant cousins having descended from Samuel Belknap. Chancy Belknap, born in 1768, had several children with both wives, and died in 1840. His youngest son, Lynde Belknap (b. 1857), inherited the property from his mother, Mercy Belknap, upon her death in 1848. In the 1860 census, Lynde is noted as Master Farmer with real estate valued at \$10,000 and personal estate of \$2,000. In 1860 his household consisted of himself, his wife Sarah, their son Lynde, two servants from Ireland, Mary Murphy and Christopher Brannen, and an African-American hired hand born in New York, Peter Thompson.

By the time of the 1870 census, Lynde Belknap moved his family to Fishkill, New York, and the Orr family took up residence at the former Belknap home. John Orr (age 29 in 1870) was married to Martha Orr (age 26), who had been a Belknap prior to their marriage. Their household also included their daughter, Mary (age 5 mo.), John's brother and sister, Charles Orr (age 26) and Mary Orr (age 22), and a laborer born in Prussia, Percival Otto (age 25). John and Charles were both born in Ireland; census data indicates they immigrated to the United States in the mid-1850s. The Orrs continued to live at the farm through the early 20th century; however, by 1910 only John, his brother Charles, and a female house servant named Maggie McVey remained in the household. None of their names appeared in the 1930 census and shortly thereafter the property was donated to the City of Newburgh for the purposes of constructing an air strip.

Archaeologists recovered 4,149 historic artifacts from the Belknap Farm Site and documented dozens of stone features representing a house, barns and outbuildings, wells, cisterns, and multiple stone walls. Despite the extended period

of occupation, archaeologists found both horizontal and vertical separation of deposits at the site. A buried surface beside one of the barns yielded fragments of a white clay smoking pipe and a cast-disc button dating to the last quarter of the eighteenth century. These materials would have belonged to Jonathan Belknap or others who may have assisted in building the barn. Horizontal patterning at the site was expressed primarily through ceramics and nails. Examples of Westerwald, Staffordshire, and German stoneware were found on the east side of the site, while whiteware, ironstone and wire nails were more common on the west side of the site and immediately to the rear of the house. The number of wire nails recovered from the foundation for a forge located west of the house indicated it was used heavily in the twentieth century while to the rear of the house, wire nails were recovered from a builder's trench alongside an unidentified foundation that may have supported a small addition or porch.

During close examination of the house foundation, archaeologists discovered several coats of parging, or whitewashing, on the interior of the house cellar. The whitewashing indicates the area was intentionally improved and corroborates archival information suggesting the cellar was fully finished. Whitewashing was a common way of treating walls in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and was considered to improve sanitary conditions. Evidence of attempts to improve and control water drainage at the site was found in the form of stone-lined ditches recorded at the site. Several stone-lined wells were also recorded, with three grouped so closely they may have been excavated in an effort to lower the water table in the area.

Analysis of the features and artifacts within this complex suggest a purposeful segregation of the buildings at the site based on function. Specifically, the house and its related out-buildings lie in the eastern half of the complex, while all of the barns and a forge lie in the western half. Artifact patterning around the buildings further reflects the segregation of domestic and agricultural activities. The arrangement of the Belknap Farmstead reflects a pattern that has been referred to in other literature as a German-American style. The tradition creates clear separation of the activities related to the household such as food preparation and storage from agricultural tasks related to the cultivation of crops, maintenance of tools, and care for animals. However, genealogical information has already established that the Belknap family was from England, not Germany. The Belknap Farm Site may be a creolization of German and English structural elements, building styles and types, and settlement organization suggesting occupants of the Belknap Site were not restricted by ethnicity or tradition. Artifacts and architectural remains also suggest the inhabitants may have been taking part in the agricultural reform movements of the nineteenth century as well as believers in the new ideas about cleanliness and order that became prevalent during the Victorian era. The economic success of the Belknap family obviously allowed them to

invest significantly in improvements at their farm. Further avenues of research include additional investigation of the system of drainage at the site, additional sampling of the earlier component and development of a chronological reconstruction of improvements at the site that links them to specific inhabitants.

The Archaeological Conservancy's Recent Historic Acquisitions

[Submitted by Andy Stout]

The Archaeological Conservancy's Eastern Regional Office established the Clinton's Ditch Archaeological Preserve in Chittenango, NY, in late 2007. The Conservancy's Clinton's Ditch Preserve is a 27-acre multi-component site that contains a segment of the original Erie Canal complete with a boat repair dry dock and a Middle to Late Woodland period prehistoric site. The Clinton's Ditch Preserve contains a segment of the original 1825 Erie Canal, which operated from 1825 until it was enlarged, reconfigured and diverted at various sections in the 1850s. The new canal was referred to as the enlarged Erie Canal and during this enlargement the section of the canal at the Clinton's Ditch site was largely abandoned. Over time the original section of the canal was back-filled, though its trace is still discernable today. In addition to a segment of the canal, the property contains an original Erie Canal boat dry dock from this same early period. Dry docks are specialized activity areas that were used for the repair, and at times the construction, of canal boats. The docks came in a variety of shapes and sizes, and employed a variety of means to extract the massive tonnage of the canal boats from the canal and place them within the dry basin or dry dock for repair. Entire canal boats have been found submerged and largely preserved within other dry docks along the Erie Canal. While the exact type of boat dry dock located at the Clinton's Ditch preserve is unknown, saving the site will guarantee future researchers a wealth of information on a variety of canal and canal boat related topics. In addition to being near the Chittenango Canal Boat Museum, the Old Erie Canal State Historic Park and the Erie Canal National Heritage Corridor are located in close proximity to the Clinton's Ditch Preserve. Today the Erie Canal is a popular tourist destination and linear park used by hikers, fisherman, kayakers and other outdoor enthusiasts. For more information on The Archaeological Conservancy visit: www.americanarchaeology.org

Maryland

Reported by: Silas D. Hurry

St. Mary's City

In 2006, HSMC began a project to undertake conservation treatment of over 3500 unstable objects in their collection. The artifacts come from three of the most significant sites on the property, including the St. John's site (ST1-23), the Van Sweringen Site (ST1-19) and the Chancellor's Point site

(ST1-62). The materials consist primarily of metal alloys and colonial olive green bottle glass that was identified during a detailed condition survey in 2002 as requiring treatment in order to ensure their long-term stabilization. Both projects have been funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services. Conservation of the metals, including iron, copper alloys, and lead alloys, are being undertaken by project conservator Lisa Young, conservation assistant Amy Creech and interns from the University of Mary Washington. The glass is being treated by conservation interns from St. Mary's College, Maryland, and the staff of HSMC.

Significant data has been revealed during conservation of many of the artifacts, particularly the iron artifacts once catalogued as "unidentified ferrous alloys." X-radiography performed by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation has allowed the project team to see information for the first time that has been hidden beneath obscuring corrosion since these artifacts were excavated in the early 1970s. Details such as tool marks, wear, decorative features, and evidence such as burning, composite metals solders and iron working have been revealed during cleaning. Information on past treatment practices at Historic St. Mary's City, their successes and failures, has also been a focus study of this project. Collaboration between the conservation team and staff archaeologists has allowed additional data to be recorded about the artifacts and the proveniences from which they were recovered, all of which is being archived with the site records. A detailed database is being used to capture all the data in Microsoft Access.

Findings from the treatment phase of this project are being turned into a series of web-exhibits which will highlight findings of the conservation project and enlighten users about the conservation techniques and processes being used at HSMC. The information will be posted on the Historic St. Mary's City website in Fall 2008.

Smoker's Companion – identified and cleaned during project



Port Tobacco, Charles County

Few of Maryland's Colonial towns are as well preserved as Port Tobacco. Three eighteenth-century houses and a nineteenth-century schoolhouse still stand in the historic downtown area. The rest of the 60-acre town site is virtually undeveloped. In 2007, the Port Tobacco Archaeological Project (PTAP) completed a shovel test pit survey of the south half of town. More than 300 STPs were excavated and only one failed to produce artifacts. Survey of the north half of town is underway and while the artifact density is lower here, only those STPs that approach a marsh have failed to produce. PTAP is now using the STP survey data to select locations for excavation during the summer field season. In June, the Archeological Society of Maryland will hold one of its two annual field sessions at Port Tobacco. From July through September we will be conducting excavations related to a Preserve America grant, recently awarded to us. Our main research questions for 2008 revolve around the changing demographics of Port Tobacco.

When Captain John Smith visited the area in 1608, he noted the existence of a Native American village of Potobac. This village was always presumed to be within the Port Tobacco town limits. Our STP survey did produce artifacts of Native American origin, and a small number of excavation

units will explore one particularly promising cluster of such artifacts.

Port Tobacco has been inhabited by Euro-Americans since the 1650s, when it was Chandler's Town. The town began to prosper after the construction of the County courthouse there in 1727. Port Tobacco's heyday lasted for over 150 years but appears to have come to an abrupt end. Historic photographs of the 1890s depict well-kept buildings in a quaint town. Those of the 1920s show the same buildings with significant modifications, suggesting multiple tenant occupancy, or abandoned and cannibalized for their materials. In between these two time periods the courthouse was burned to the ground, under suspicious circumstances, and the replacement courthouse constructed in nearby La Plata. The Episcopal Church that stood beside Port Tobacco's courthouse was soon dismantled and re-erected beside the new La Plata courthouse. Port Tobacco was abandoned, but not by everyone. Census records show that the African-American population remained. A Baptist Church was also constructed out of the courthouse remnants. PTAP plans to excavate several units within and adjacent to a residence, store, and hotel to study the town's shifting identity and socioeconomic standing, as well as that of its visitors.

These dramatic changes in the town were likely related to events surrounding the Civil War. Port Tobacco was once home to signers of the Declaration of Independence and the US Constitution; however, it lost National prestige when it became a favored Potomac River crossing of Confederate spies. The local population was also generally sympathetic to the Southern cause. George Atzerodt, one of the four people executed for the Lincoln assassination, called Port Tobacco his home. PTAP is conducting extensive archival and archaeological research to identify the locations of Atzerodt's residence, the carriage shop he operated, the hotel where he discussed plans with John Wilkes Booth, and other related sites. This work, funded by Preserve America, will provide us with an opportunity to look at Port Tobacco's identity before, during, and after the Civil War.

Future efforts of PTAP will focus on the Colonial era of Port Tobacco and the sedimentation of the Port Tobacco River, which forced the port from the town. PTAP is committed to timely dissemination of its research and maintains a daily research blog at <http://porttobacco.blogspot.com>.

Annapolis – Archaeology in Annapolis

Archaeology in Annapolis, in partnership with the Banneker-Douglass Museum, the State of Maryland Center for African American History and Culture, in Annapolis, has opened an exhibit called Seeking Liberty: Annapolis, An Imagined Community. The exhibit is in the Banneker-Douglass Museum and will close November 29, 2008. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 to 5.

Some of the finest artifacts from 28 years of excavations in Annapolis by the University of Maryland College Park are on exhibit. Five sites are used to show the progressive quests for freedom made by Americans and illustrated through peo-

ple living in Annapolis. The Jonas Green Print Shop site, the Calvert House site, Reynolds Tavern, Brice House, and the Maynard-Burgess House are all well-represented, often by texts taken directly from the scholarly work of the archaeologists in charge of excavating the sites. The work of Drs. Barbara Little, Anne Yentsch, Thomas Cuddy, Jessica Neuwirth and Jim Harmon, Paul Mullins, and Mark Warner is all represented.

A new excavation, continuing through the middle of June, 2008, is open to the public in the heart of Annapolis along Fleet and Cornhill Streets. Sponsored by the Department of Public Works of the City of Annapolis, these sites are open to the public Tuesday through Saturday, 9 to 4. A late 17th century log road has been discovered at the base of Fleet Street. Both a public well and other components from the 18th century have been discovered, showing the pattern of development in the heart of early Annapolis.

2008 is the tercentenary of the City's Royal Charter, and

Mayor Ellen Moyer has specifically designed an archaeological program to highlight the anniversary celebration.

Maryland Archaeology Month provides both a poster and a walking tour of key archaeological sites in Annapolis as a way of celebrating the 300th anniversary. The booklet's tour was written by Matthew Palus.

Annapolis – The Archeological Society of Maryland

The Archeological Society of Maryland, in cooperation with the Maryland Historical Trust, held its annual symposium on April 12 at the First Presbyterian Church in Annapolis. Town-founding was the theme of the day-long public event, a fitting subject in light of the 300th anniversary of the City's charter. Dr. Al Luckenbach reported on several Anne Arundel County town sites examined by The Lost Towns of Anne Arundel Project, including Providence, London, and Herrington. Dr. Julia A. King of St. Mary's College of Maryland, delivering the Richard E. Stearns Memorial Lecture, discussed her latest research at Charles County's first county seat (1674), as well as her earlier work at Richard Smith's 'port' in St. Leonard, Calvert County; two places that served as towns, even though they weren't. Dr. Henry M. Miller of the Historic St. Mary's City Commission gave the Iris McGillivray Memorial Lecture, presenting new information in support of his baroque-plan hypothesis for the layout of Maryland's 17th-century capital.

Dr. Mark P. Leone, University of Maryland and guest curator at the Banneker-Douglass Museum in Annapolis, introduced the new exhibit, Seeking Liberty: Annapolis, an Imagined Community, which attendees visited during an extended lunch. Attendees also had the opportunity to visit the University's ongoing excavations on two of the City's older streets.

During the afternoon, Dr. Michael Lucas presented his recent work at the Colonial town of Mount Calvert (aka Charles Town) in Prince George's County, focusing on relationships between this small, short-term town and the Colonial capital. Dr. April M. Beisaw closed out the event

with her review of recently completed work at the town of Port Tobacco, long-time seat of Charles County government, and a preview of work at the site for the upcoming summer and fall.

The symposium neatly summarized knowledge of town research in Maryland and the directions of continuing work.

Cockeysville

In June 2007, the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), along with their partners and volunteers, conducted an excavation of the Connemara site. The site historically served as a middle class plantation during the 18th and 19th centuries. The main house and associated outbuildings, including the extant ruins of the spring house, bank barn, and agricultural-related building, were constructed from the same local marble as Baltimore's and Washington DC's Washington Monuments.

The field investigation concentrated on discovering the truth surrounding several myths associated with the property. These stories were relayed by a former tenant, Maria Simonson, to archaeologists just prior to the site's demolition in 1987. She revealed an intriguing history of the property that included a Civil War encampment, a crypt surrounded by a slave cemetery, and a building purported to be a slave quarter. The validity of Ms. Simonson's stories was determined after hours of archival research and the excavation of numerous test units.

The first area investigated was the standing ruin of an alleged slave quarter. Indeed, Connemara was a slave owning plantation; however, there were no historical references to slave cabins on the property. Excavations inside and outside of the building produced numerous artifacts, the majority of which were structural hardware, including nails, bolts and screws. Only twenty-five percent of the feature assemblage included personal or domestic artifacts, including glass jar fragments, stoneware, pearlware, creamware, whiteware, and porcelain sherds. Two buttons, a buckle and horseshoe were also found associated with the ruins. Given this artifact distribution, the archaeologists concluded that the building functioned as an agricultural outbuilding, perhaps a barn or stable, rather than a domestic dwelling.

The purported location of a Civil War encampment, adjacent to a tenant house called Thimble Cottage, was also archaeologically investigated. According to the story, a contingent of soldiers on retreat from the Battle of Gettysburg camped next to the tenant house. Historical documentation revealed there was Civil War activity in the area. In 1864, Confederate soldiers pushed into Baltimore to disrupt communication and transportation routes between Washington, DC and Baltimore. On July 10th, General Bradley T. Johnson led his cavalry into Cockeysville and destroyed telegraph lines and railroad tracks, one year after the battle of Gettysburg. Archaeologists investigating the rumored camp location found no Civil War related artifacts there or at any other location on the site.

The final mystery was the rumored crypt and slave

cemetery. According to Ms. Simonson, a cement slab capped the graves of one of the former plantation owners along with nine slaves buried adjacent to the crypt. During our field investigation, the concrete slab still existed and was delineated with marble stone blocks. To the west was about a seven meter round depression with a vertical field stone that may have been a footstone.

The concrete slab was bisected to see if it was indeed a burial crypt. Instead of bodies, late 19th century ceramics, square cut nails, and bottle glass were found just beneath the slab. The archaeologists determined that the crypt instead functioned as a small outbuilding foundation.

Following investigations of the crypt, a geophysics crew was hired to survey the large depression. A ground-penetrating radar survey was conducted around the possible footstone and within the depression to locate possible burial shafts or other features. The geophysics technicians suggested that the depression was a deep pit surrounded by a foundation. Test units were placed alongside the footstone and within the center of the depression. Archaeologists discovered a five-foot deep cellar with collapsed rock. Artifacts recovered included late 18th and 19th century ceramics such as pearlware, redware, creamware, stoneware, and white granite. It appears this building was built during this time frame and abandoned some years later.

In summary, the archaeological and archival findings revealed all of the history and reports of the oral testimony, recorded by archaeologists 20 years earlier, to be completely false. This preliminary investigation underscores the value of archaeology in confirming, contradicting, and/or contributing to our existing published history. The Connemara site investigation will be a multi-year project with excavations resuming this summer. Archaeologists will concentrate their studies on the backyard of the main house which includes a suspicious feature with a stone foundation and possible plaster floor, along with further excavations behind and along the rocky depression of the collapsed building. After excavations conclude this summer, SHA will focus their efforts on transforming the Connemara site into a public environmental classroom. Tentative plans include the installation of signage along a historical and biological interpretive trail that winds through the ruins and populations of native plants.



Plantation house built in early 19th century, (photograph courtesy of the Baltimore Sun [1967]).

Virginia

Reported by: David A. Brown

Werowocomoco

[Submitted by Thane Harpole and David Brown]

Werowocomoco, in present day Gloucester County, was the primary residence of Chief Powhatan in 1607 when the English settled at Jamestown. Powhatan's movement to the site in the years before 1607 hints at its long-standing regional importance. To understand its origins and the interactions between Virginia Indians and the initial English colonists, the site has been the subject of a multi-year investigation by archaeologists and Virginia Indian scholars.

Between 2003 and 2007, annual field schools sponsored by the College of William and Mary and directed by the Werowocomoco Research Group have been uncovering various elements of this dispersed village. The first few seasons of work included investigations of the residential core, located on the high land overlooking Purtan Bay. This work yielded dense arrays of postmolds, abundant quantities of ceramics and lithics, as well as deeper intact strata containing evidence of landscape modification and the introduction of maize.

Further removed from the river, archaeologists discovered a pair of large ditches in 2003 that divided the site into two distinct zones. The following four field seasons were largely spent tracing the route of these ditches and investigating the area they enclose. Based on the work completed in 2006 and 2007, there are actually three separate ditches. The inner ditch appears to be the earliest and encloses the smallest area. The two outer ditches appear to have been decades later, but still well before Powhatan occupied the village. They stretch more than 800 feet across the wide flat field and either curve or abruptly turn towards the east. There are some complicated turns and intersections of the ditches that are at this point still poorly understood. A small case bottle base found in the fill of one ditch suggests that portions of these ditches were still open and maintained into the 17th century, and may indeed be the shapes indicated on the 1608 Zuniga map. An unusually large longhouse identified within the ditch enclosure provides further evidence that this was a restricted ceremonial space. Only a very small percentage of the area within the ditches has been investigated, but as we complete the artifact analysis, specialized studies and reports, we hope to arrive at a more refined understanding of the site's chronology, landscape and regional importance. Please visit our website at <http://powhatan.wm.edu> for updates about the archaeology and history of Werowocomoco.

Marine Corps Base Quantico

[Submitted by John Haynes]

Marine Corps Base Quantico occupies 103 square miles of Stafford, Prince William, and Fauquier Counties in northern Virginia. The area stretching from the estuarine Potomac

River in the east to Cedar Run in the west incorporates a rich diversity of topography, geology, and history, including hundreds of historic period sites. Recent research at Quantico related to early exploration, the colonial 'golden age' of Virginia, and the Civil War are discussed below.

History at Quantico begins with the exploration of the Chesapeake Bay by Captain John Smith in 1608. Smith and his party explored the Potomac River in late June and early July of that year. They made forays inland from Aquia Creek with native guides in search of a silvery mineral they observed in a body paint pigment commonly used in the region. Smith, disappointed that it was not silver, likened it to antimony. Research on the geology of the area, topography, and details of the expedition narrative identified the source area of the material, which is comprised mainly of graphite. Fieldwork continues in search of archaeological evidence of the quarry and associated refinement of the mineral.

Native American occupation of the area was active until the late 17th century, and it was only after the mid-17th century that the first colonial settlements appeared in the area. Recently, Site 44ST0927 on the eastern portion of the Base yielded an assemblage dating from the mid-17th century to the mid-18th century with a mean date of 1710. This is an early site for this part of Virginia, and the earliest historic period component identified at Quantico. By the mid-18th century settlement expanded with the booming trade in tobacco, and extended well to the west of the Potomac. In 1742 Prince William County established its courthouse near Cedar Run. After only 18 years, the courthouse was abandoned when Fauquier County split away from Prince William County in 1759. The National Register eligible site was evaluated in the 1990's, and in a subsequent project to interpret the site and restore its landscape, adjacent chain link fencing and invasive plants were removed and split rail fencing and an interpretive panel were installed by a crew of volunteers on National Public Lands Day. A copy of the interpretive panel can be downloaded at the Historical Marker Database web site: http://www.hmdb.org/documents/CourthousePanel_final.pdf.

The Potomac River was key terrain during the first year of the American Civil War. Control of navigation on the river meant having avenues of supply or attack, across or up the river. After defending key tributaries to the south, Aquia and Potomac Creeks, the Confederates established strong batteries at the mouth of Quantico Creek which not only defended but maintained an offensive role. Union shipping on the Potomac was blockaded for more than four months, and the demise of these batteries became a key consideration in Union strategy. During this 'Battle of the Potomac' large bodies of troops supported the batteries at Quantico. Archaeological investigations at three winter camp sites are supporting their nominations to the National Register. A Multiple Property Documentation developed for these and other properties is listed as "Properties Associated with

Campaigns to Control the Lower Potomac River, 1861-1862.” Property types identified include support facilities such as camps and depots, fortifications, ordnance (e.g., cannons), and shipwrecks. Of the latter, the location of one shipwreck, that of the gunboat CSS George Page, has tentatively been identified in Quantico Creek. Sites and landscape elements of the battle areas are recorded in GIS files following the KOCOA approach, an ongoing effort which will hopefully be added to by other researchers. Copies of the files are available to bona fide researchers. Please contact john.h.haynes@usmc.mil.

Civil War Entrenchment Site, Battle of Fredericksburg

[Submitted by Marie B. Morton]

In February 2008, staff from the Cultural Resources Division of Paciulli, Simmons and Associates based in Fredericksburg, Virginia, conducted an evaluation of the previously recorded Civil War entrenchment site, 44CE505, located within the U. S. Army installation Fort A. P. Hill (FAPH) in Caroline County, Virginia. The site is located at an area within FAPH, protecting it from looting, development and other impacts. When originally recorded, the site was said to consist of a single entrenchment. Further investigation utilized a combination of intensive pedestrian survey, systematic shovel testing, as well as intensive and systematic metal detecting. This approach resulted in the identification of a small artifact assemblage and numerous previously unrecorded features including two rifle pits, a footpath, a defensive trench, and two firing positions.

The site relates to use of this part of Caroline County leading up to the Battle of Fredericksburg, as well as its aftermath, and the winter encampment of Confederate soldiers under the command of Stonewall Jackson. The archaeological investigation was combined with intensive archival research, primarily utilizing the National Park Service archives held at Chatham in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Rifle pits, used as forward picket posts, were situated on a small finger of the ridge top overlooking the drainage basin below and to the east. This strategic piece of high ground also had a commanding view of the adjacent ridge top to the east. These rifle pits served as forward picket posts for the Confederate troops manning the trench to the northwest behind them. After the Battle of Fredericksburg, several sorties by Federal cavalry across the Rappahannock in this area attempted to find an area where a flanking attack could be successfully made. These rifle pits were oriented to see as far northeast and east as possible in the direction of Federal positions, situated to protect the soldiers manning them, and positioned far enough forward to allow runners to alert the larger body of troops along the trench that an attack was eminent.

A well-worn footpath, which traversed the landform from the northwest to the southeast toward the trench, was identified associated with 44CE505. The footpath is approximately 3 feet (0.91 meters) wide and two feet deep in most

spots with well-defined berms along each side. This path intersects the defensive trench, adjacent to the northeast of a small drainage basin. The foot path trends southeast across the landform, winds eastward to the edge of the ridge, then proceeds southeast along the landform’s edge to the rifle pits. Beyond the rifle pits, the path skirts the edge of the landform southeast for 175 feet (53 meters) before turning east and crossing the drainage. Most likely, the path leads to other picket posts and may link up with entrenchments to the east and along the Rappahannock River. The width, depth, and extent of the foot path indicate that it was heavily utilized for a long time. This path was probably used by Confederate soldiers walking picket duty during their several month occupation of this area in the winter of 1862-1863.

A defensive trench is the central feature associated with 44CE505. This feature is oriented from the southwest to northeast along an azimuth of 40 degrees and traverses a narrow ridge top, an intermittent drainage head, and a wide upland terrace where the elevation ranges from 50-130 feet (15-40 meters) a.m.s.l. Despite 146 years of erosion, this feature is well preserved. The trench is approximately 1,645 feet (502 meters) long, the ditch varying from 3 to 3.5 feet (0.91-1.1 meters) wide and 2-3 feet (0.61-0.91 meters) deep, and the parapet ranging from 3-4 feet (0.91-1.2 meters) wide and 2-3 feet (0.61-0.91 meters) high. The trench construction is a standard, long, open ditch with the spoil thrown forward to serve as a parapet. As constructed, its orientation and topographic position provide ample protection against a Federal flanking attack, which was of great concern both before and after the battle at Fredericksburg. This defensive line could have additionally served as a fall back position in the event that the more substantial works along the Rappahannock were captured.

Two features, designated as firing positions, were identified very near the foot path. Both were dug out areas that would have provided protection and shelter for men on picket duty. Such features were used to provide a place for those on picket duty to take turns resting. The feature is deep enough so that when a soldier lies down with a blanket covering him, he would be shielded from the wind, and to some extent, the elements. Additionally, during an attack the soldier could fire from the prone position and be protected. The existence of these two features in close proximity to each other and the footpath suggests that troops were conducting picket duty in several pairs, which was common for the time period.

The artifact assemblage recovered included a copper Federal Uniform button, a brass gasket, a horseshoe fragment with shoeing nails, a fragment of a “searcher,” a wrought iron spike, a copper buckle, a Minie ball fragment, a fired Minie ball, an iron ring, a square piece of iron, an iron bar, two possible cannon ball shrapnel fragments, flat molded iron plate, and two cut nails.

Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge, Fairfax County

[Submitted by Michael F. Johnson]

In 2007, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) completed fieldwork on the second phase of a survey and testing program on the Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge at the southern tip of Fairfax County. The first phase, completed in 2005, involved a systematic reconnaissance of the Refuge's Potomac Estuarine boundary to map and photo document the effects of shoreline erosion on archaeological sites. Fifteen of the 22 sites located experienced severe damage from erosion. The second phase of the project was to assess the significance of two of the more severely eroded sites. Starting at the eastern end of the project area on Sycamore Point (previously recorded as Site 44FX1474), the FCPA planned to examine up to two sites. Sycamore Point was documented as George Mason IV's Dogue Neck Plantation, his residence during the 1750s while he built Gunston Hall. It also contained a continuous line of occupation, including a major fishery and farming, up through the 1960s.

The method began with a ten-foot interval STP transect (grid-sample of 1/100, using 1-foot square STPs) running parallel and tangent to the 35-40-foot bluff overlooking the Potomac Estuary. The tightness of the interval was due to recent testing programs on other sites (44FX2553, 44FX2634, 44FX2636, 44FX2723, and 44FX3191), where it was demonstrated that a 20-foot interval was inadequate to locate potentially significant features and critical diagnostic artifacts on both prehistoric and historic sites. Sycamore Point reinforced that methodological axiom, when the only feature was hit by an odd numbered STP. Test excavations based merely on artifact distributions, even at the 10-foot interval, failed to locate any other features. Due to the site's large size and to time constraints, additional STP transects were extended inland at 20-foot intervals along transects spaced 40 feet apart. These transects proved worthless for component boundary identification.

The testing pattern provided evidence for the mid-18th century occupation at the western end of the 350-foot long transect. That was away from Sycamore Point and contrary to expectations. The feature was apparently a trash deposit, containing brick rubble, large animal bones and a light scatter of late 18th-century artifacts, including creamware and pearlware. The artifacts suggested a high status occupation, however, Mason moved to Gunston Hall in 1759, suggesting that the overseer for his lower Neck plantation may have occupied the site.

A second site (44FX2145), located on the adjacent landform to the west, was subjected to a full grid, 10-foot interval transect interval sample, but time constraints did not allow test square excavations to locate features. The site, called Moyumpse Cliffs #1, proved to be largely prehistoric. However, besides Middle Woodland ceramics, it produced Late Woodland, Potomac Creek ceramics and several green wine bottle flake-like sherds similar to artifacts found at the Sycamore Point site (above). It is possible that both sites contain very Late Woodland/17th-century American Indian

“Dogue (Moyomps)” occupations. Should that prove to be the case along with the George Mason IV occupation, the two sites would clearly be of National significance and warrant focused efforts to stabilize their shorelines.

Monticello Plantation Survey and Field School

[Submitted by Sara Bon-Harper]

The Monticello Department of Archaeology recently completed its 2008 season of the Plantation Survey, a project that will eventually survey all of the Monticello property owned by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. The Plantation Survey employs shovel testing at 40-foot intervals, with surrounding STPs at 20-foot intervals when historic artifacts are encountered. Since its inception in 1997, the survey has covered 430 of the nearly 3,000 acres owned by the Thomas Jefferson Foundation. Some 17,000 STPs have revealed 20 Jefferson-era sites, many of which are the homes of enslaved field hands.

The picture arising from this work is the dynamic nature of the plantation, with an early model (starting ca. 1770) of clustered dwellings for slaves and overseers, and a later change to more dispersed sites. These later sites (mid-1790s and later) are smaller, likely containing fewer households, and correspond to a more differentiated work force during mixed-grain (primarily wheat) farming, rather than the earlier gang labor employed by tobacco-culture.

The latest seasons of Plantation Survey have focused on the areas closest to the mountaintop, and have revealed several new sites. These include a domestic site just across the Third Roundabout from Elizabeth Hemings' house. The Elizabeth (Betty) Hemings house was known from historical documents and excavated in the mid-1990s. The current work provides knowledge of other plantation elements around this site that was indicated by Jefferson in his documents, in an area where nothing else had been noted. It underscores the incomplete nature of the written record, where elements are included or not, based on the intended use of the document, or the perception of the landscape by the document's author.

The summer season of fieldwork at Monticello will see continued fieldwork at Site 8, the home of a group of enslaved field hands from the early Monticello period (1770-1790s). Work at this site since 1998 has included an extensive sampling of the plowzone across the artifact scatter, with further testing in areas with suspected houses. This has revealed four houses, with other suspected structures on the site left to discover. The four houses have produced a total of eight sub-floor pits, two of which are significantly larger than the others, and one of which is lined with brick. These elements suggest that there may have been some investment in constructing these pits for use by a group producing food for storage, intending consumption at a later date or perhaps sale to the main house. The sampling of plowzone across the site allows us to examine the use of exterior domestic space, including the maintenance of yards, which may be tied to the productive activities suggested by the sub-floor pits.

The Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Site, Alexandria

[Submitted by Steven Shephard]

Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery, at the corner of S. Washington and Church Streets, was the burial place for slaves who had fled to freedom in Alexandria, Virginia, during the Civil War. The Military Governor established the cemetery, and between 1864 and 1869 as many as 1800 people were buried on this knoll on the southern edge of the city overlooking Hunting Creek and the Potomac River. Thousands of years before this time, American Indians occupied the knoll for short stays and left evidence of their presence in the ground, including a broken Clovis point about 13,000 years old.

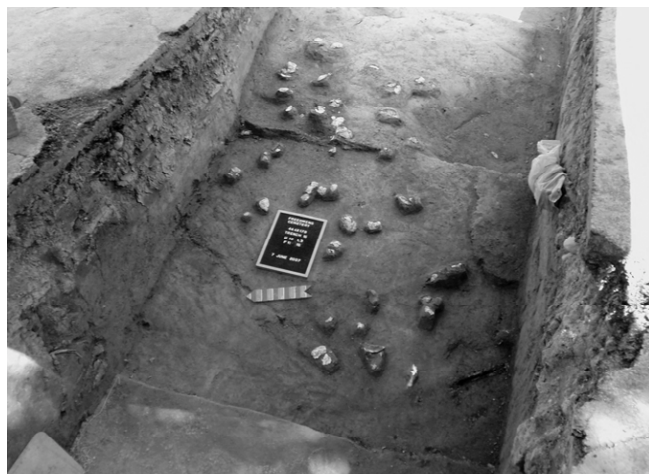
This piece of land was greatly altered and built over in the twentieth century, including a 1950s gas station on Washington Street and later an office building on the adjacent lot. In the 1980s historians rediscovered records of the cemetery, including burial records listing names of the deceased, their relatives, places of death, and dates of burial. Newspaper articles referring to the site in the late nineteenth century were also found. As the public became aware of the old desecrated cemetery, a Friends of Freedmen's Cemetery group was formed and a state marker was erected on the site.

In 1996, Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. conducted a ground penetrating radar and electromagnetic survey on the gas station property, identifying rows of possible graves beneath the asphalt. Two years later, a similar survey conducted by Geosight on the southern and western edges of the cemetery identified disturbed soils, possibly the result of grave digging. URS Corporation undertook the first archaeological excavation in these same edge areas in 1999 and 2000. Rows of graves were uncovered with a total of 78 grave shafts identified and recorded, but no burials were excavated.

The massive Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project posed a potential threat to the site. The City Council, at the urging of the Friends of Freedmen's Cemetery, decided to purchase the cemetery property and honor the Freedmen by developing it into a memorial park. In order to insure that the design of the cemetery memorial would not disturb any graves, Alexandria Archaeology, the City's division of archaeology, designed a treatment plan for an archaeological investigation in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, Virginia Department of Transportation and The Federal Highway Administration.

In 2004, City archaeologists Fran Bromberg and Steven Shephard directed the excavation of 14 trenches on the gas station and office properties and determined that, while there was serious grading in some areas of the property, a portion of the cemetery surface still existed beneath a layer of fill. They also identified 45 graves, some of which had coffin remains evident immediately underneath the gas station asphalt.

In May of 2007, the City of Alexandria purchased the



*Oyster shell grave decorations on buried cemetery surface.
Credit for photo: Alexandria Archaeology.*

properties and demolished the structures. The huge underground fuel tanks were cleaned and filled with concrete. The soils were tested for contaminants and cleared by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality. A cemetery rededication ceremony, including a candle illumination, was held at the site and was well attended, the community responding in a way rarely seen in the City.

In that same month, archaeologists with Alexandria Archaeology began an extensive investigation of the property later completed in December. The goal of this work was to gather more information on the extent of the distribution of remaining graves, collect information on the elevations of the burials, determine the extent of the buried cemetery surface and record any features encountered. No excavation of burials was conducted and the graves, including the grave shafts, were disturbed as little as possible. The principal investigators of the investigation were City archaeologists Steven Shephard and Francine Bromberg, who, along with the field director Eric Larsen, directed a crew of five professional archaeologists, students from George Washington University, interns and volunteers.

On the western side of the property, a portion of the cemetery's original sloping surface remained intact under re-deposited fill. This was soil bulldozed from the knoll and pushed out over the sloping surface to create additional level ground for a parking lot. Sampling test units found that at least portions of a prehistoric site remain along with the cemetery's original surface. Only one grave had surface decoration, a scatter of whole or nearly whole oyster shells. This type of decoration has been found in other African-American cemeteries, such as at the Freedmen's Cemetery in Dallas and the Black Baptist Cemetery in Alexandria. This is a clear indication of an African-American practice at a cemetery established by the military government and operated by military-appointed authorities. A few artifacts from this portion of the site were clearly from the cemetery time period. Mid-nineteenth-century ceramics, buttons, and dropped Minie

balls in both large and .22 calibers were recovered from this buried surface. The prehistoric assemblage from the site is currently being analyzed, but the time periods represented range from Paleoindian through Middle/Late Woodland.

The 2008 excavations brought the total number of graves identified to 534. The graves were laid out aligned east-west and were organized into distinct rows across the site similar to the rows of headstones at Alexandria National Cemetery established by the Union Army in 1862. More than 40 north-south running rows of graves were identified at Freedmen's Cemetery. National Cemetery has a pattern of two rows of graves separated by a path or walkway. There do appear to be walkways at Freedmen's Cemetery, but they do not appear to be laid out as regularly as at National Cemetery. A linear strip of ground devoid of graves, eleven to thirteen feet wide, extended from S. Washington Street west into the cemetery and was presumably a driveway.

The majority of coffins that could be identified as to shape were hexagonal. Although it was not expected that much coffin hardware would be found, extreme grading of the site, in many cases to the tops of the sides of the coffin, resulted in coffin hardware other than nails being seen in 26 burials. Of these, 21 had coffin screws or tacks and 6 graves had one or two decorative coffin hinges for opening the top half of the coffin. Handles were observed on only one grave, which had 6 bail-type decorative handles.

The report on the 2007 investigations at Freedmen's Cemetery is now being prepared, along with a separate volume on the history of the site. The goal is to place this site in a larger context and provide information that will contribute to the study of African American cemeteries as a whole. It is now estimated that as many as 900 graves remain at the site and the City is dedicated to protecting these burials. A design competition for the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial is currently underway. The deadline for submissions was April 25, 2008, and 175 entries were received, including designs from 22 countries. The memorial is planned to be completed in 2010. This desecrated cemetery will be returned to a place to honor the struggles and triumphs of an enslaved people who had finally gained freedom in the city of Alexandria, Virginia.

The Archaeological Conservancy's Recent Historic Acquisitions

[Submitted by Andy Stout]

The Archaeological Conservancy's Eastern Regional Office has recently signed an option to purchase the famed Pamplin Pipe Factory site in Pamplin, Virginia. The Pamplin Pipe Factory is situated on a 3-acre parcel within the small town of Pamplin, Virginia. The site was once the largest producer of clay tobacco pipes in the world and includes a reconstructed pipe kiln, the pipe factory building, and intact archaeological deposits from the manufacture of these pipes. Archaeological investigations at the Pamplin Pipe Factory conducted in the late 1970s identified remains of other struc-

tures related to the pipe factory as well as thousands of pipes. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Register in 1980.

Pamplin had a cottage industry or what is locally known as the "home industry" of making clay tobacco pipes that dates back to the 1740s. The home industry was established by mostly older women who utilized the clay found in the area, which was perfect for pipe production. In the 1850s, an Akron, Ohio company established the Pamplin Pipe Factory to take advantage of the already established home industry and the clay sources. The factory housed 8-10 pipe making machines and operated 2 kilns. Pamplin was the first site in Virginia where pipe making was known to have been done on a mass-production basis. By 1935 the company claimed to be the largest pipe making factory in the world, producing 1,000,000 pipes a month. In its later years the factory's emphasis was placed on novelty and souvenir pipes especially through the sale of the "Powhatan" pipe which contained an image of an Indian wearing a Plains-style headdress. Pamplin pipes have been found all over the United States, and entire crates of Pamplin pipes were found during the archaeological salvage of the Bertrand, a steamboat that sunk on the Missouri River in Nebraska in 1865. The pipe factory changed hands several times before going out of business in the 1950s due mainly to the rise in the popularity of the cigarette.

The Conservancy has negotiated a 1-year option to purchase the property for the appraised value of \$77,500. The Conservancy is working closely with the Appomattox Historical Foundation, who would like to maintain a museum at the site. Anyone interested can send contributions to: The Archaeological Conservancy, Attn: Pamplin Pipe Factory, 5301 Central Ave. NE, Suite 902, Albuquerque, NM 87108-1517. For more information you can contact me directly at tac_east@verizon.net. For more information on The Archaeological Conservancy visit: www.americanarchaeology.org

Excavations at the Sun Trust Site and Ravenscroft Field School

[Submitted by Andrew Edwards]

The most recent archaeology undertaken by the Department of Archaeological Research, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, took place last fall at the corner of Henry and Prince George Streets, near Merchants Square. SunTrust Bank is moving out of their offices on Merchants Square and will construct a new facility a block away on Prince George where a small drive-through bank was built in 1969. The archaeology undertaken by our department nearly 40 years ago discovered several 18th-century brick drains and building foundations at the location, but since little time was allocated for their excavation, the features were recorded and then covered by the bank parking lot, preserving many of them under asphalt and sand. The site was essentially forgotten until the department took on the formidable task of exca-

vating the James Wray Site in 2002 prior to the construction of the city's Prince George Street Parking Facility. James Wray was a "general contractor" who provided building and repair services in Williamsburg between 1736 and 1749. Re-analysis of the artifacts and archaeological remains found in 1969 (foundations, post holes, pits, etc.) suggested that the bank area and the Wray work yard were related. The plans for the new banking facility show the building taking up most of the old parking lot which meant that the features discovered in 1969 were in jeopardy. This part of Williamsburg is in the City's Archaeological Review Area and archaeology was required prior to any activity that would compromise archaeological remains. The work, fully funded by SunTrust, began in late August of 2007 with construction planned for the beginning of 2008.

We started by completely removing the asphalt parking lot and the engineering sand beneath. Once the features discovered in 1969 were uncovered, they were mapped and carefully photographed. There was more than expected and more than recorded in 1969 lurking beneath the benign asphalt: elusive evidence of Middle Plantation, the 17th-century town that Williamsburg replaced when it was created in 1699. A series of roughly circular features were determined to represent two 30 by 20-foot post-in-ground buildings dating to the 17th century. The two buildings were superimposed upon one another, suggesting that one building was the replacement for the other rather than their being contemporary. Since no fireplaces were found for the buildings they probably weren't residences, but perhaps tobacco barns. There was a hearth located during the 1969 excavations that may have its origins in the Middle Plantation period as well since it was oriented askew to the north-south layout of Williamsburg. These structures may have made up a small 17th-century tobacco farm.

In addition to the unexpected 17th-century buildings, we

also uncovered the ruins of a late 18th-century building and fence line that are depicted on the Frenchman's Map of 1782. The map shows a fairly large outbuilding in the location where we uncovered part of a robbed-out brick foundation. It was not an uncommon practice for people to dig up foundation brick and re-cycle them in other buildings. What that leaves us is a trench filled with broken brick rubble and mortar chunks. The hole for the end post of the fence line shown on the 1782 map was also located.

The SunTrust excavations were finished in November and the analysis of the artifacts and the report-writing is being done this winter and spring. The excavations added a great deal to our understanding of the layout of Middle Plantation, the changes in the landscape of that area during the 18th century and the domestic component of the Wray carpentry operation. The project was sponsored by SunTrust and we look forward to offering an exhibit in the lobby of the new bank explaining the importance of the finds and what we've learned from the excavations.

This coming summer, the 24th annual William and Mary/ Colonial Williamsburg archaeological field school focusing on Public Archaeology will be held again at the Ravenscroft Site on the corner of Nicholson and Botetourt Streets in the Historic Area. Cross-trenching carried out in 1954 by Colonial Williamsburg's Architecture Department uncovered the brick foundations of a large residence and an oddly configured small cellar with a wide entrance on the south wall as well as evidence of both interior and exterior fireplaces. The architects excavated the cellar, made their customary fine drawings and took photographs before back-filling both buildings. As neither building was a candidate for reconstruction, the corner lot was used as a farming exhibit until the late 1990s when it served as the site of a small tenant house exhibit. A brief excavation prior to the construction of the tenant house exhibit and the 1954 work recovered

some very high quality and diverse ceramics as well as a few late 17th-century pieces. These, combined with the enigmatic layout of the cellar, left a lot of questions about the building's use and life.

In 2006 the Department of Archaeological Research was given the opportunity to re-open the site as an exhibit dig for the visiting public and a venue for the field school – and perhaps to answer some of the mysteries sur-



Robbed foundation and related features from the Sun Trust Site. Credit for photo: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

rounding the site. June through August of 2006 and 2007 were devoted to uncovering the cellar and a 30' by 50' apron around the foundations in order to determine whether the 1954 work actually uncovered the whole building and whether any landscape features like walkways and fence lines existed that could help determine how it was used. Excavation of a section of the builders' trench rendered a TPQ of 1720 (Yorktown-type coarseware), confirming that the building was 18th-century rather than 17th. Further excavation has suggested that the cellar was built within a large (borrow?) pit dug for other purposes. The cellar's interior was re-excavated last year. Over 10,000 artifacts were recovered from the 14 by 16-foot cellar, about 80% of which were 18th century and the remaining 20 or so percent dating to the mid-20th – including several plasticized pocket calendars for 1932 issued by a local insurance company.

In the early to mid-20th century the area around what is today the Ravenscroft site was a very active African American neighborhood that included a church, a barber shop, a pool room, a hotel and several residences and businesses. The plethora of artifacts recovered from both the plowzone and the cellar that date to this period speaks directly of the descendant community of this neighborhood, many of whom are still active in the Williamsburg area. A major part of the Ravenscroft project involves gathering written, photographic and oral histories of the former neighborhood and will be an active part of the Public interpretation at the site this summer. For more information: http://research.history.org/Archaeological_Research.cfm.



*Hut hearth related to Site 44PW0917.
Credit for photo: John Haynes.*

Archives, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

[Submitted by Sarah Leonard]

It's a busy time for the Archives at the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR). In 2007, 854 sites throughout the state were added to the inventory, making the total sites recorded in Virginia over 39,200. We are looking forward to hitting 40,000 by the end of 2008. To further these efforts, DHR staff has been working with the Archaeological Society of Virginia to educate volunteers on how to record sites with the state. In February 2008, DHR released a new policy to allow any volunteer with the ASV to obtain a Data Sharing System (DSS) account to record sites. DSS trainings are being scheduled throughout the state to encourage volunteers with the ASV to record new sites. In addition to trainings, the department released a new paper site form in March intended for volunteer use. DHR also has a volunteer working on updating our CRM Annotated Bibliographic Report database in Access, housing information on just under 6,500 unpublished reports. Volunteers and interns work throughout DHR, and are encouraged to get involved with scanning, organizing card catalogs, and artifact processing.

March also brought to conclusion the first concerted effort to enhance the data entry aspect of the DSS. DSS was created in 2001 through a joint effort with the Virginia Department of Transportation. DSS is an online cultural resource management tool that merges the analytical capabilities of a GIS with a comprehensive information database of sites throughout the commonwealth. Updates to the archaeological data entry portion of the DSS include a new section on the eligibility of sites for the National Register of Historic Places, a listing of threats to sites, and improved data entry for important site information, such as UTM coordinates and survey methods. In addition, DHR is working on the addition of a special page on the archaeological site form reserved for submerged site information. It is expected that improved archaeological site forms and other reports will be implemented by the summer of 2008.

Since December 2007, DHR has initiated an effort to keep particularly sensitive site information restricted to the professional archaeological community to prevent harm to 82 high risk sites throughout the state. Policies enacted affect access to site information through site files, GIS shapefiles, and Reading Room practices. For more information on restricted site access, DSS, volunteer efforts, or the DHR Archives, please contact the Archivist, Quatro Hubbard, at Quatro.Hubbard@dhr.virginia.gov or the Archaeology Inventory Manager, Sara Leonard, at Sara.Leonard@dhr.virginia.gov.

Ellwood Breezeway Steps, Spotsylvania County

[Submitted by Kate Egner]

In March 2008, Dovetail Cultural Resource Group conducted an architectural and archaeological survey at historic Ellwood, in conjunction with the ongoing restoration of the house by the Friends of the Wilderness Battlefield. The restoration of the property includes the rehabilitation of the

breezeway steps on the south façade of the house. The goals of this survey were to identify the construction methodology of the original breezeway steps and to pinpoint evidence related to the chronological changes in the entryway and step area.

The architectural survey yielded information on the likely placement of the breezeway steps and their support structures. With this knowledge, archaeologists excavated two test units in order to identify any traces of the breezeway's supports. Though construction in the 1930s likely destroyed the majority of the original stair configuration, the excavations did reveal a breezeway landing. This was supported by a 4 x 8 inch square post that rested flush against the house. In addition, handmade brick was found underneath the 1930s fill, suggesting that the breezeway was supported away from the house by a brick wall or pier. For more details on the archaeological excavation and architectural survey at Ellwood, contact Dr. Kerri Barile, Cultural Resource Group at (540) 899-9170, or at kbarile@dovetailcrg.com.

Cowie Shell Research, College of William and Mary

[Submitted by Joe Roberts]

Doctoral graduate student Joe Roberts at the College of William and Mary's Anthropology program is evaluating early subfloor pit deposits related with African-American assemblages elsewhere in the Chesapeake with regard to emerging early African American culture based on shared West African traditional meanings. He is particularly interested in cowries, beads, and other frequently-encountered "signature artifacts" as items that provide a basis of shared experience in the African Diaspora while allowing New World Africans to hold on to important and useful elements of their individual heritage. Taking ambiguity and indeterminacy as a productive element in Diasporic ethnogenesis, this research attempts to move beyond the question of identifying discrete source cultures while allowing that original West African meanings remain very much in play in New World contexts. He will focus on West African uses of material culture items, specifically local or regional practices but with an eye for pragmatic strategies that apply to inter-group trade and interaction. Starting with the Chesapeake sites listed in the Digital Archaeological Archive of Comparative Slavery (DAACS, www.daacs.org) but expanding to cover other Chesapeake slave sites, he will revisit the evidence and evaluate interpretations offered by prior researchers, critically evaluating a proposed model of material cultural practice centered on the actual incidence of beads, cowries, and other African-American 'signature artifacts' in the Chesapeake, confronting the public perception versus the reality of those items' presence at sites across the region.

Archival Research and Publications on Early Virginia

[Submitted by Martha McCartney]

Martha McCartney, an historian and collaborator on numerous archaeological projects, will publish a book length history of Hanover County, Virginia, before the close of 2008.

The project is sponsored by Heritage and History of Hanover County, Inc., a non-profit group chartered in 2004 to embark on a series of publishing ventures to introduce the public to Hanover's historic role in our nation's past. Martha also recently completed background research and a handful of essays in support of the interpretive plan at Freedom Park, site of a Free Black community that was occupied from 1803. Sponsored by James City County, the data on the Free Black occupants who lived on the property is amazingly intact. The 689-acre park, opened in September 2002, includes an 18th-century graveyard, the Williamsburg Botanical "Ellipse Garden," and has a rich historical background dating back to the 1650s, including one of the nation's earliest Free Black Settlements in America (1803), the Revolutionary War Battle of Spenser's Ordinary (1781), and most recently, the discovery of a 17th century domicile that is revealing much archaeological research of the early colonial period (1680-1730). In addition, she is also conducting research on the 19th-century Jolly Pond Mill Complex that James City County hopes to preserve.

Rosewell, Gloucester County

[Compiled by David Brown and Thane Harpole]

In the fall of 2007 DATA Investigations continued excavations at Rosewell plantation (44GL12), one of America's largest and most sophisticated examples of early eighteenth-century Georgian architecture. After a fire in 1916, the building fell into disrepair, leaving an elegant ruin that now towers over a pristine agricultural landscape along the York River in Gloucester County. The Rosewell Foundation contracted DATA Investigations to assist a team of architects, structural engineers, architectural historians, and historians with reassessing the condition of the building and designing a plan for its future preservation. Called the Blueprint for Preservation, this plan will also guide future work and establish a baseline assessment of the ruin that researchers will use to evaluate how the ruin is deteriorating. We completed the initial excavations within the ruin's cellar in May 2007. The most recent work focused on two additional areas: a roughly 5' x 10' area immediately adjacent the foundation on the building's exterior and a 2.5' x 25' trench across the top of a brick vaulted cellar room.

Excavation units on the exterior of the building were intended to reveal the condition of the foundation's surface. While confirming that the foundation was in excellent shape, the excavations encountered numerous features and layers related to over 200 years of life in and around the house. The location of the units outside the northwest corner of the foundation revealed a series of nineteenth- and twentieth-century postholes related to porches extending from a door in the west gable. An original feature of the building, historians wondered if brick connectors were built between the manor house and the flanking forecourt dependencies. While excavations in the 1990s suggested these connectors were never built, more recent work adjacent to the northeast flanking dependency, as well as a re-evaluation of the previous work,

suggests that a brick wall was likely constructed instead. The current excavations revealed portions of a brick wall extending from the northwest corner and connecting with the flanking dependencies.

Immediately beneath the brick wall, extending out from the manor house foundation at a 45 degree angle, are the remains of a lead-lined brick drain opening, one of at least three such openings that once brought water from the flat lead roof away from the ruin and towards Carter Creek. In the 1990s, a ground-penetrating radar survey by Geosight's Bruce Bevan located the majority of the surviving drains, including a second set that did not connect with the manor house. Beneath the wall and drain foundations were layers of late 17th- and early 18th-century artifacts related to the construction of the house and the destruction of a previous building complex constructed by the Page family before the 1710s. At least two of these buildings burned in 1721, providing a new generation of Pages with the opportunity to begin construction on the present ruin.

The second excavation area included a series of 2.5' wide test units dug as a trench above the intact vaulted cellar room. Significant amounts of rubble were found related to the building's destruction, as well as a handful of iron objects which match items seen in early 20th-century photos of the building's interior including a wrought iron coat rack. The excavations also revealed a curious pier located off-center to the crest of the vault, the height of which confirmed that the legend of the checkerboard marble floor was in fact a myth as the height of the joists and flooring would not have allowed for such a construction. The excavations related to this phase of the project are complete and artifact analysis is ongoing.

T.C. Walker House and Quest End, Gloucester County

[Compiled by David Brown and Thane Harpole]

In the late fall of 2007, DATA Investigations assisted Hampton University and the Gloucester Economic Development Authority with a Phase I archaeological survey of the T.C. Walker house along Main Street in Gloucester. The survey was intended to help identify intact archaeological deposits and evaluate whether these resources might be eligible for nomination to the state and national registers. The survey identified significant deposits related to the early 20th-century occupation of the house by pioneering African-American attorney and civic leader Thomas Calhoun Walker. It also identified remnants of an earlier, 18th-century occupation.

Earlier this year, the Quest End property (44GL103) in Gloucester County was officially listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The property includes a significant late 19th-/early 20th-century house overtop of an amazingly intact and rich late 17th- through late 18th-century colonial plantation site. Archaeological testing over the last decade, including shovel testing, test unit and feature excavation, revealed a 18' x 36' brick lined cellar with plastered

interior as well as a filled low area that captured a near-complete cross-section of refuse disposal and landscape change for almost a century during the early historic occupation of the site. The foundation marks at least the second historic occupation on the site. Constructed after 1720, the cellar was filled sometime during the third quarter of the eighteenth century. The last occupants of the site were likely enslaved Africans and African Americans living nearby as their daily trash, as well as fill soils from the nearby ravine, were found thrown into the empty cellar hole. These artifacts include 17th-century red clay tobacco pipes and German Bartmann Krug fragments, as well as creamware, colonoware, and later 18th-century imported tobacco pipe bowl and stem fragments. In addition, a collection of three pewter spoons, one with an etched design, are similar to those found in slave-related deposits at nearby Rosewell plantation and Rich Neck plantation near Williamsburg.

Menokin Plantation Survey, Richmond County

[Compiled by David Brown and Thane Harpole]

In February and March of 2008, DATA Investigations assisted the Menokin Foundation (www.menokin.org) with a close-interval contour survey and shovel test survey of the landscape surrounding their magnificent late 18th-century manor house ruin. Intended to both assist in interpretation as well as the planning of future work associated with the ruin's stabilization and build-back, over five hundred shovel tests were excavated and a detailed topographic map created for the 1000 square foot area surrounding the manor house. The topographic survey better delineated complex terraced gardens constructed for Francis Lightfoot Lee and his wife in the late 18th-century and documented the condition of the landscape during the time of survey. The archaeological survey found artifacts across most of the tested area, including distinct concentrations related to slave quarters and support buildings associated with the manor house from the late 18th through mid-19th century. Along with previous work done by the University of Mary Washington, this survey will add considerably to our knowledge of how the plantation landscape changed over time, including the methods used to create the terraced gardens, the intended design for the formalized landscape that surrounded the manor house, and how that intended design was implemented and modified by subsequent generations.

Fairfield Plantation

[Compiled by David Brown and Thane Harpole]

Over the last several months, staff, volunteers and interns have carried much of the burden of field excavation and analysis as the foundation directors have focused on fundraising and other administrative activities. Staff Archaeologist Meredith Mahoney continues the excavation of a second cellar entrance into the Fairfield manor house. Preliminary analysis of the artifacts suggests the entrance is original to the building (ca. 1694) and compliments an

entrance on the east side of the house. Located on the south side of the west wing, this entrance led from a kitchen in the cellar directly to a well barely fifteen feet from the building's foundation. The entrance was sealed off sometime after the third quarter of the 18th century, perhaps by the Thruston family who took ownership and made changes to the plantation in the 1780s.

Andy Kinkaid, avid volunteer and ASV certification student, continues his internship with excavations along the north façade of the manor house. Hundreds of hours, spent mostly by Andy, removing destruction debris and topsoil from the 60' front of the house revealed a series of features related to porches, fencelines, and possible stair construction related to the complex history of the manor house from 1694 to 1897. Work in the coming months will clarify how these features fit chronologically and reveal how changes to the front of the house reflect and connect with larger changes to the surrounding landscape.

Melissa Pocock, Danielle Cathcart, and Anna Hayden are each completing internship projects through the National Institute for American History and Democracy at the College of William and Mary. Anna is focusing her research on the use of post-in-ground architecture and the use of plowzone analysis to help predict building locations and activity areas. Melissa is initiating a study of the expansive midden deposits that cover nearly 1000 square feet of now-plowed field to the west of the plantation. Used primarily between 1750 and 1850, this midden reflects the diverse activities taking place within the plantation core over the most complex period of its history. Danielle is developing a study collection of colonoware recovered from excavations at Fairfield. Her analysis not only reviews the intense debates over the origins of colonoware, but also addresses how it was used at the plantation.

Charlotte Gintert, a bottle specialist visiting from Akron, Ohio, came to Fairfield to conduct a detailed analysis of the bottles recovered from the cellar's "Mystery Room," document and create a bottle study collection, and instruct Fairfield staff in bottle analysis. Her work concluded that the majority of the bottles were medicinal or chemical and dated from the 1880s to the time of the 1897 fire. These products were often brought to local stores on steamships that plied the Chesapeake Bay and Tidewater rivers during the latter part of the 19th century. Bottles like this were very common at this time due to a demanding public and a lack of legislation regulation. Many of the bottles contained alcoholic beverages. The disposal of so many complete medicinal bottles, of various sizes and types, into the convenient dumping area of the 'mystery room,' suggests that they were not heavily reused. The 'mystery room' could only be accessed from the first floor room above, and it was filled with sand, ash and artifacts before Fairfield burned. The bottles are a very interesting part of this story that tells us about the last inhabitants of Fairfield.

This summer's work will continue with excavations around the east gable of the manor house and proceed to the

south, hopefully completing the work necessary to construct the protective structure above the ruin. Additional excavations will continue our sampling of the plowed soils throughout the three-acre "core" of the plantation, as well as survey work to identify the location of the earlier 17th-century home of the Burwells. Please visit the Fairfield Foundation website for more information and volunteer opportunities at www.fairfieldfoundation.org.

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THE BRYANT-BARKER TAVERN SITE, 1765-1820S
Newcastle, Maine

Session #1: July 13-18, Session #2: July 20-25, Session #3: July 27-Aug 1

The 2008 Damariscotta River Association Archaeology Field School Program

Archaeologist Tim Dinsmore will direct his final year of research on the 18th-century Bryant-Barker Tavern site located along the west bank of the Damariscotta River in Newcastle. During the past ten years, field school participants have helped search for the tavern site by excavating test units across two properties overlooking the Damariscotta. In 2001 the exact location of the tavern site was discovered and with it a profusion of artifacts dating to the period. The objective for the 2007 field season will be to continue defining the outer walls to the structure and perhaps locate the elusive chimney base and hearth. Excavation will also be conducted in the tavern cellar—parts of which have been previ-

ously excavated and have revealed insights into the material culture of the time. The site, once home to shipwright Nathaniel Bryant and family, also served as a public tavern that was, “much resorted to by travelers.” The site is significant in that it – along with the Hale site or George Barstow homestead site – mark the birthplace of the shipbuilding industry along the upper Damariscotta – an industry that flourished well into the 19th-century. The continued and final excavation of the site will afford a detailed glimpse into the everyday lives of 18th-century shipwrights and their families. Participants will learn about the fundamental principles and rigors of archaeological research while helping contribute to this important project. Space is limited so sign up early.

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